(d) Does not arise.

Expansion of Telephone Facilities in Orissa

*197. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the action plan to provide more telephone exchanges and telephone connections in Bhubaneswar and at the District Headquarters of Orissa;

(b) what is the number of new telephone connections proposed to be provided in Bhubaneswar during the year 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) As part of the eighth Five Year Plan, it is proposed to expand the telecom. services in the State of Orissa also so as to contain the waiting period in the large systems to less than two years and to make telephones available on demand in smaller systems, rural and backward areas by the end of the 8th Plan. The actual expansions or setting up of new telephone exchanges will depend on the growth of demand. During 1992-93 about 2000 new telephone connections are proposed to be given in Bhubaneswar. In the State of Orissa, about 12000 new telephone connections are proposed to be given in 1992-93.

हीरों का निर्यात

*198. **श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल :**
श्री भुवनेश्वर कालिता :

क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सरकार का हीरों के निर्यात के संबंध में क्या कदम उठाने का विचार है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि हीरों के निर्यात में कमी आई है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है, और

(घ) इस व्यवसाय में लगे लोगों की शिकायतों को दूर करने तथा हीरों के निर्यात में वृद्धि करने के लिये सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम): (क) से (घ) तराशे और पालिश किए गए हीरे का निर्यात 1989-90 में 4971.93 करोड़ रु० का और 1990-91 में 4738.71 करोड़ रु० का हुआ। चालू वर्ष में, वित्तीय वर्ष के प्रथम 10 महीनों में 4737.94 करोड़ रु० का निर्यात हुआ जो पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि के दौरान 3619.35 करोड़ रुपए की तुलना में 1118 करोड़ रु० अधिक है। हालांकि इसमें रुपए के रूप में वृद्धि हुई है, किंतु अमरीकन डालर के रूप में इसमें थोड़ी सी गिरावट आई है। ऐसा मुख्य रूप से हमारे प्रमुख खरीददारों की अर्थव्यवस्था में मन्दी के कारण हीरों की अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मांग में गिरावट के कारण हुआ है। सरकार ने हीरा निर्यातकों को पर्याप्त मात्रा में आयातित कच्चे माल की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित की है। हीरे का निर्यात बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किए गए अन्य उपायों में विदेश में मेलों और प्रदर्शनियों में भाग लेना, बाजार सर्वेक्षण के लिए विभिन्न देशों में प्रतिनिधिमंडल भेजना इत्यादि शामिल हैं।

Proposal to Set Up Gas based Power Plants in Madhya Pradesh

199. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be plaeased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under its consideration to set up gas based power plants in Madhya Pradesh in the near future;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) *if not, the reasons therefor?*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-COVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) The Central Electricity Authority have received a Project Feasibility Report from the Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board (MPEB) for installation of Combined Cycle Power Project of 817 MW (4x131.3 MW GT+2x146 MW ST) in Gwalior District, Madhya Pradesh, for techno-

economic clearance. The Project is estimated to cost Rs. 838 Crores. The proposed station envisages use of gas from HBJ gas pipeline by laying suitable pipeline of about 20 Kms. from the junction at Kamad to the proposed site. While MPEB has obtained the clearance of the National Airport Authority, Water Resources Department, and State Pollution Control Board of the Government of Madhya Pradesh in respect of the proposed sation, they have not tied up essential inputs-fuel linkage, associated transmission system, compliance of Section 29 of Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 etc.—and have not obtained clearance from the Central authorities from environmental angle. The scheme is not in a state of readiness for techno-economic appraisal by the Central Electricity Authority. The Central Electricity Authority can accord techno-economic clearance to the scheme after all the essential inputs have been tied up and necessary clearances have been obtained by the MPEB.

Import Items Under O.G.L.

*200. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of items under OGL at present and how does it compare to the position in 1989-90 and 1990-91;

(b) what was the value of imports under OGL in 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(c) what is the estimated value of imports under OGL for 1992-93 after the introduction of Exim-Scrips; and

(d) whether Government are considering abolition of OGL altogether to make the Exim Scrips a more effective instrument?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Import of items other than those covered by the Negative List is permitted freely and the system of Eximscrip has been discontinued. Details in this regard are contained in the Ministry of Commerce Public Notice No. 277-ITC (PN)/90-93 and 278-ITC(PN)/90-93, both dated 29.2.92, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Items of Capital Goods and raw materials, components, consumables and spares, import of which was permitted under Open General Licence during 1989-90 and 1990-91 are specified in the Import and Export Policies for the relevant periods. Besides this, import of unlisted items of raw materials, components consumables and spares was also permitted under Open General Licence during the aforesaid period (upto 5.11.1990).

Statistics regarding imports made under Open General Licence are not maintained.

Indian Airlines and Vayudoot Services to Dibrugarh/Lilabari

1777. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURSIM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of Indian Airlines and Vayudoot services to Dibrugarh and Lilabari during the last two years;

(b) whether Indian Airlines and Vayudoot have any specific plans to increase its services to Dibrugarh/Lilabari to cater to its neighbouring State Arunachal Pradesh in the near future; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Information is given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.